Production of wagons

1283. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether wagon production target for 2005-06 was revised downwards;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of actual production of wagon for the financial year 2005-06; and

(d) the action taken to increase the production of wagons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The budgetary target of acquisition of 23300 wagons in terms of Four Wheeler Units (FWUs) was revised to 18000 FWUs during 2005-06 due to poor performance of most of the wagon manufacturing units and closure of one of the major private wagon manufacturing unit.

(c) The actual production of wagons during the year 2005-06 was 18681 FWUs.

(d) During the current financial year *i.e.,* 2006-07, Indian Railways have planned to acquire 12000 wagons *i.e.* about 30000 FWUs (10000 wagons under Rolling Stock Programme (RSP) and 2000 under Wagn Investment Scheme (WIS). After detailed discussion with all wagon builders it was brought out that one of the main constraints in enhancing the production was difficulty in procurement of bogies and couplers. Bogies and couplers have now been made free supply items.

Rail line from Obulavaripally to Krishnapatnam

1284. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider the laying of a new crucial reailway line of 114 Kms from Obulavaripally in Kadapa district to Krishnapatnam Port in view of rejection by the Commerce Ministry of Union Government, for economical transportation of iron-ore, coal and cement exports and imports in Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh, in view of the fact that Andhra Pradesh Government is ready to provide 32

crores of rupees, krishnapatnam Port Company is ready to provide 64 crores of rupees and others 26 per cent of the cost of laying this Railway line, with only 35 per cent equity gap left-over; and

(b) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Obulavaripally-Krishnapatnam new line project (114 kms) has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 534.91 crore. 45% of sanctioned cost will be equity for which the proposed equity participation of the various shareholders of the SPV is given as under:—

Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL)-30%

Government of Andhra Pradesh-13% Krishnapatnam

Port Company Limited-30% National Mineral

Development Corporation-27%

Fund for new/ongoing railway projects in Tamil Nadu

1285. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds allocated for new/ongoing railway projects in Tamil Nadu for the current financial year is inadequate while comparing Tamil Nadu with other railway network developed State;

(b) the basis on which the funds are sanctioned against railway projects to each State;

(c) the details of funds requirements projects by the Southern Railway an sanctioned by Government during the last three years; and

(d) the details of projects in Tamil Nadu which are waiting for the Centre's approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) A total allocation of Rs. 480.25 crore has been provided for projects in Tamil Nadu for the current financial year. The funds are being allocated depending upon the overall availability of resources and as per the State-wise formula.